



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday, 2nd July 2026 at 4:30 pm.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Jim Tenanty

Members: Councillor(s) Pearse McGeough, Dolores Minogue, Bernie Conlon

Apologies: Councillor(s) Rachel Kerley, John Sheridan

Officials: Bernadette Woods, Director of Finance
Anne D Callan, Deputy Meeting Administrator
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer
Anthony O'Donoghue, Senior Executive Officer
Ben Holland, Assistant Engineer
Anna Nowacka, Clerical Officer

Minute No. 54/26

Minutes of Annual Meeting held on the 4th June 2026

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Dolores Minogue
Seconded by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough
And Approved.

Minute No. 55/26

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 4th June 2026

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Pearse McGeough
Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue
And Approved.

Minute No. 56/26

Matters Arising

- The Castleguard Junction (Minute 48/26) remains a safety concern following recent accidents, with requests for a dedicated left-turn-only solution. A follow-up meeting with TII has been scheduled to discuss the issue further.
- The upgrade of the N33 has been delayed due to cables connected with the proposed Irish Sea Wind Farm.
- Members discussed the development of park-and-ride facilities and the integration of bus stops at Stabannon Junction, including land assessments and negotiations with landowners. The projected timeline for completion is estimated to be between two and three years.

Minute No. 57/26

Taking in Charge Report

Members noted the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Assistant Engineer, Mr. Ben Holland, addressed matters raised by Members. The following points were noted:

- An update will be provided on the completion of works at Beech Grove, Coopers Place, Mayne Way, Castlebellingham and The Orchard, Dunleer.
- It was noted that the terms "No Bond" and "Unavailable" in the circulated report refer to developments where no cash or paper bond is available, which may arise where a developer has entered into liquidation.

Minute No. 58/26

Housing Progress Report

Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Anthony O'Donoghue, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the Elected Members. The following matters were raised and discussed:

- An update was provided on the Bridgegate Housing Development, with the units expected to be advertised on Choice Based Letting (CBL) by the end of July.
- Members welcomed the proposed development of 90 houses at Ash Walk and noted the positive contribution the scheme would make to the town.
- Progress at Ravel Grange, Ravel Drive, and Mullavalley was reported as satisfactory, with a recent site visit confirming that works are progressing on schedule.
- Members commended the Housing Section for the transparency and frequency of its progress updates.

Minute No. 59/26

Roads and Local Services Report

Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Enda Murphy, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the Elected Members. The following matters were discussed:

- Members were advised that a meeting regarding the Bypass would take place on July 8th, with updates to be provided thereafter.

- Issues relating to Dunleer Playground, including concerns regarding prolonged wet paint and outstanding repairs, were raised for follow-up.
- Delays in gully cleaning were discussed, with Members expressing concerns regarding the potential for flooding during periods of heavy rainfall.
- Sightline obstructions at road junctions caused by overgrown vegetation were discussed, and it was noted that contractors are available to address urgent cases.
- Hedge cutting at the N2 and N33 junctions is scheduled for August; however, flexibility exists to address urgent safety issues as required.

Minute No. 60/26

Notice of Question - Cllr. Dolores Minogue

Given recent concerns raised by the Tánaiste regarding the identification and enforcement of derelict properties, can Council provide details for County Louth and the Ardee Municipal District on: (1) the number of complaints received regarding potentially derelict properties over the past three years; (2) the number of inspections carried out; (3) the number of properties added to the Derelict Sites Register; (4) the value of derelict site levies imposed and collected; and (5) what additional measures are being taken to identify and bring vacant and derelict properties back into productive use?

Reply from Thomas McEvoy, Economic Delivery

- (1) The number of complaints received between January 2023 to June 2026 (to date) was 197. Of these, 34 no. complaints were in the Ardee Municipal District.
- (2) The number of derelict site inspections carried out is estimated to be in the range of 500 - 550. Each case would normally require at least 2 and typically 3 inspections during the course of the investigation.
- (3) 98 no. properties were added to the Derelict Sites register since 2023. 27no. properties have been removed during the same period.
- (4) Approximately €667,000 in Derelict Site levies have been imposed between 2022 and 2026. Of this amount, approximately €573,000 in unpaid levies remains outstanding.
- (5) Tackling Vacancy and Dereliction crosses a number of directorates in Louth County Council with the Compliance and Land Activation Unit (Economic Delivery) responsible for maintaining the Derelict Sites Register and investigating Dangerous Structures. Major Capital Projects and Capital Delivery (Regeneration) and Housing and Culture Delivery are responsible for CPO (Compulsory Purchase Order) and co-ordinating and administering the various grants available including the URDF and RRDF Schemes, Vacant Property Refurbishment Grants and the Living Above the Shop Grants. Regular Cross-Directorate Meetings are held to discuss Vacancy and Dereliction, to identify buildings which should be investigated with a view to adding them to the Derelict Sites Register and to explore CPO options.

Minute No. 61/26

Congratulations

- Members congratulated the Louth Senior Football Team on their achievements and extended their best wishes for continued success.
- Members expressed their appreciation to fellow Councillors, the Chief Executive and Corporate Services Staff for their support and efforts in facilitating the visit of the Twinning

delegation from Nettuno, Italy.

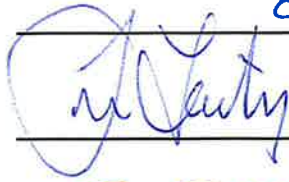
As there was no other business, the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date:

03/09/2026

Cathaoirleach:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Varty', written over a horizontal line.

Meeting Administrator:

Deputy

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. C. C.', written over a horizontal line.